

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12 AGRE-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCS-06 /081 W
-----041375 251130Z /16

O R 251005Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8736
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, BGEN, CASC, AF
SUBJECT: INDAMER AFGHAN INDUSTRIES: LOCAL FIRM'S DIFFICULTIES
WITH AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

REFS: A. KABUL 5048 B. NEW DELHI 9765 C. KABUL 5092

1. REFTEL A REPORTED THAT INDAMER (AND A BRITISH FIRM, ANGLO-AFGHAN TRADING COMPANY) HAD BEEN ORDERED TO CEASE TRADING OPERATIONS. SUBSEQUENT CONTACTS BETWEEN INDAMER AND OFFICIALS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA), AND OUR OWN CONTACTS WITH THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDICATE THAT THENSRA INTENDS TO SHUT DOWN NOT ONLY TRADING ACTIVITIES BUT ALL INDAMER OPERATIONS, INCLUDING ITS RAISIN PROCESSING PLANT, AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE FACILITIES, AND INSURANCE SURVEY ACTIVITIES. THE FIRM HAS BEEN GIVEN 30 DAYS (EVIDENTLY FROM JUNE 13) TO CEASE OPERATIONS.

2. REFTEL B, BEING REPEATED TO DEPARTMENT, REPORTED VISIT TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI BY AMCIT JOSEPH KOSZAREK,
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OWNER OF INDAMER, TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN OVER FUTURE OF HIS INVESTMENT IN AFGHANISTAN, AND OVER SAFETY OF HIS SON, RICHARD, WHO IS INDAMER'S VICE PRESIDENT, RESIDENT IN KABUL. KOSZAREK HAD SENT EMBASSY KABUL A COMMERCIAL CABLE EXPRESSING SAME CONCERNS AND REQUESTING OUR ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP APPOINTMENTS FOR HIM WITH APPROPRIATE AFGHAN

OFFICIALS TO NEGOTIATE A SALE OF HIS INDAMER INTERESTS. FYI. KOSZAREK DID NOT SPECIFY WHETHER HE HOPES TO SELL TO THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT OR TO A PRIVATE BUYER, BUT AT THIS POINT BOTH PROSPECTS APPEAR EQUALLY BLEAK TO US. END FYI. REFTEL C IS OUR INTERIM ANSWER TO KOSZAREK'S CABLE SENT TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY AND REPEATED TO NEW DELHI AND DEPARTMENT.

3. IN THE PAST, AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, EMBASSY KABUL HAS RENDERED EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO INDAMER AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE AND ADVICE IS NEEDED AS TO OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD INDAMER IN THE PRESENT SITUATION WHICH PORTENDS TO BE A NON-WIN ONE FOR KOSZAREK. INDAMER IS NO LONGER INCORPORATED IN THE UNITED STATES AND DOES NOT REPEAT NOT PAY U.S. CORPORATE TAXES, BEING OPERATED IN AFGHANISTAN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KOSZAREK FROM HIS BOMBAY OFFICE. IT IS, THUS, AN AFGHAN COMPANY, DIRECTED FROM INDIA, ALTHOUGH -- AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE -- TOTALLY OWNED BY AMERICAN CITIZENS. DOES THE DEPARTMENT DRAW A DISTINCTION IN THE TYPE OR AMOUNT OF SERVICE WHICH WE CAN RENDER TO SUCH A FIRM VIS-A-VIS FIRMS INCORPORATED IN, AND/OR DIRECTED FROM, THE UNITED STATES?
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4. WE PLAN TO APPROACH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO REQUEST APPOINTMENTS FOR MR. KOSZAREK AS HE HAS ASKED. THIS ACTION WILL BE COORDINATED WITH INDAMER OFFICIALS HERE. HOWEVER, WE NEED URGENTLY THE GUIDANCE REQUESTED ABOVE, SINCE WE DO NOT FORESEE A HAPPY ENDING TO INDAMER'S PROBLEMS. DECLASSIFY 12/31/78.
AMSTUTZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KABUL05118
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780264-0146
Format: TEL
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780622/aaaaatgp.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c9301782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KABUL 5048
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2216949
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDAMER AFGHAN INDUSTRIES: LOCAL FIRM'S DIFFICULTIES WITH AFGHAN GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PINT, EGEN, AF, INDAMER
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c9301782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014